

February 18, 2021
FOIA Contact Person(s)
U.S Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (2310A)
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Sir or Madam:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552, I am requesting copies of any and all state and local agencies' communications with the EPA from 1985-1988 that pertain to the following three publications and technical reports prepared by the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation:

- **Potential Impacts of Sea Level Rise on the Beach at Ocean City, Maryland (October 1985) (EPA-230-10-85-013)**
- **Potential Impacts of Sea Level Rise on Wetlands Around Charleston, South Carolina (May 1986) (EPA 230-10-85-014)**
- **Greenhouse Effect, Sea Level Rise, and Coastal Wetlands (July 1988) (EPA-230-05-86-013)**

Attached to this request are title pages of all three reports, for reference. While I possess copies of all reports in full, I am seeking any and all communications associated with the preparation of these reports. State and local agencies' communications with the EPA are of particular interest. Known or likely state and local correspondents vary but are specific to each report, and may involve governors, senators, representatives, and mayors particular to each state or locality:

- **The Potential Impacts of Sea Level Rise on the Beach at Ocean City, Maryland (October 1985) report** includes several state or local organizations: Maryland's Department of Natural Resources, Tidewater Administration Coastal Resources Division, Geological Survey, Flood Management Division, and Ocean City Department of Planning and Community Development.
- **The Potential Impacts of Sea Level Rise on Wetlands Around Charleston, South Carolina (May 1986) report** does not incorporate similar agencies of South Carolina, but does note the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Though the report does not mention state agencies specifically, likely correspondents might include the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, as well as the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources.
- **The Greenhouse Effect, Sea Level Rise, and Coastal Wetlands (July 1988) report** is broader than the above two reports, but does include case studies of Charleston, South Carolina, and Long Beach Island, New Jersey, among other localized regions. For this reason, I request any state and local communications received by EPA which were relevant to the preparation of this report. For further reference, James G. Titus of the EPA Office of Policy Analysis prepared this report.

As part of this request, and in addition to searches of potentially responsive records held at the EPA, I am requesting also that certain, specific records accessions of the EPA and held at the Washington National Records Center (WNRC), Suitland, Maryland, or at any regional Federal Records Center (FRC) be searched for any information responsive to the request. I have listed these accessions in three attachments to this request. Correspondence accessions are listed in Attachment A, policy accessions are listed in Attachment B, and studies accessions are listed in Attachment C.

I request as well that I be provided with copies of the official Records Transmittal Forms (SF-135s) associated with each of the accessions listed in Attachment A, Attachment B, and Attachment C. My review of such forms may assist in identifying clearly responsive materials; I am happy to work with agency FOIA staff to perform this task.

For reference, I have also attached EPA retention schedules N1-412-87-004 as Attachment D and N1-412-94-006 as Attachment E. I ask that the record series listed in these documents, and held by the EPA in its headquarters or regional offices or under agency control at any records centers, be searched as well for responsive documents.

As a further request and reference, I am linking to the EPA's agency-wide Correspondence Management System (CMS) records schedule, viewable from page 90 to 93 of the [November 2020 EPA Records Schedules in Final Status](#). The data therein was migrated from the National Correspondence Tracking and Information Management System (NCTIMS) to CMS in October of 2004. I request that a search of CMS is conducted to locate any correspondence or other communications regarding the three reports delineated at the top of this request. If the database is searchable by keyword or subject, please consider these suggested search terms, as well as any other terms which will yield responsive documents:

- General titles and keyword search terms: "Potential Impacts of Sea Level Rise on the Beach at Ocean City, Maryland"; "Potential Impacts of Sea Level Rise on Wetlands Around Charleston, South Carolina"; "Greenhouse Effect, Sea Level Rise, and Coastal Wetlands"; "Carbon Dioxide"; "CO2"; "Atmospheric"; "Sea Level Rise"; "Climate"; "Climate Change"; "Global Warming"; "Erosion"; "Greenhouse"; "Greenhouse Effect"; "Greenhouse Gas"
- Authors and preparers of the reports: "James G. Titus"; Stephen P. Leatherman"; "Craig H. Everts"; "David L. Kriebel"; "Robert G. Dean"; "Timothy W. Kana"; "Bart J. Baca"; "Mark L. Williams"; "William C. Eiser"; "Thomas V. Armentano"; "C. Leslie Cloonan"
- If the database can be searched by correspondent, please also search by the environmental or natural resource agencies specific to the states and localities of interest, including Maryland, New Jersey, and South Carolina. Additionally, please search by major officials who had jurisdiction over or within the noted states and may have provided input on the reports, such as governors, senators, representatives, and mayors. Some suggested search terms are as follows:
 - "Maryland Department of the Environment"; "Maryland Department of Natural Resources"; "New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection"; "New Jersey Office

of Natural Resource Restoration”; “South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control”; South Carolina Department of Natural Resources”

- “Gov. Harry Hughes”; “Sen. William Donald Schaefer”; “Sen. Paul Sarbanes”; “Sen. Charles Mathias”; “Sen. Barbara Mikulski”; “Gov. Thomas Kean”; “Sen. Frank Lautenberg”; “Sen. Bill Bradley”; “Gov. Richard Riley”; “Gov. Carroll A. Campbell, Jr.”; “Sen. Strom Thurmond”; “Sen. Fritz Hollings”

Additionally, I am hereby requesting that all prior FOIA logs of the EPA be checked to determine if records responsive to this request may have been previously released. If such records have been previously released, I request that they be made available to me. We have, to date, identified one specific previous FOIA request, found via Government Attic search, which may have involved records responsive to our current request:

- FOIA number HQ-RIN-00918-07, requested by Paul Thacker on March 7, 2007, for “interviews and other communications regarding climate change or sea level rise.”

To the extent that any relevant documents are classified, I request that they be declassified and/or sanitized for our review. If there are classified documents that cannot be declassified and/or sanitized, I request that you identify any and all such documents by listing date, author, recipient(s) and unclassified subject matter. I would also appreciate receiving any materials that can be released as soon as possible, rather than waiting for all responsive documents to clear the review process.

History Associates agrees to pay all reasonable and standard processing fees authorized by 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(4)(A) and the applicable regulations up to \$250. Should the fees exceed this amount, please call me with an estimate of the total costs in order that specific expenditures beyond \$250 can be authorized.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this request, please contact me at (301)279-9697 or via email to meisen@historyassociates.com.

Sincerely,



Mimi Eisen
Historian